

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Info

FROM: MANILA
TO: Secretary of State
NO: 550, OCTOBER 23, 2 PM

PRIORITY.

ELITE - EYES ONLY

REF DEPTEL 489

PRES KENNEDY'S MESSAGE DELIVERED TO MACAPAGAL AT 0745 LOCAL JUST PRIOR LATTER'S FINAL BREAKFAST CONFERENCE WITH VISITING MEXICAN PRES LOPEZ MATEOS. MACAPAGAL RECEIVED MESSAGE AND MY RESUME PRESIDENT'S TV STATEMENT WITH CALM SATISFACTION AND OFFERED ASSURANCE FULLEST SUPPORT NOTING THAT THIS CRISIS ONE WHICH FREE WORLD MUST FACE WITH FINGERS CROSSED AGAINST POSSIBILITY WORLD CONFLAGRATION. MACAPAGAL ADDED LOPEZ HAD TOLD HIM YESTERDAY PRES KENNEDY AT THEIR RECENT MEETING MENTIONED DESIRE AVOID POSSIBLE ESCALATION AS CONTROLLING FACTOR IN US POLICY TOWARD CUBA. MACAPAGAL REMARKED THAT PRESENT MOVES SEEMED INDICATE US REACTING IN ONLY POSSIBLE WAY TO CHANGE IN ASSESSMENT SOVIET MOTIVES.

STEVENSON

SJR

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